

Superior Court of California
County of Merced
Probate Department

Probate Notes

Probate Notes for future calendars are available from the time they are created until the morning of the scheduled hearing. The Probate Examiner's Notes typically will be posted 5 days prior to the hearing. If you are filing documents to cure a technical defect, documents should be filed a minimum of 2 court days prior to the hearing. Documents filed late will not be reviewed except on the date of the hearing at the Judge's discretion and could result in a continuance of your case.

Parties intending to appear in Court regarding their hearing must notify all other parties and call (209) 725-4111 to notify the Court of such intent by 4:00 pm on the day before the hearing.

Contacting the Probate Examiner:

Probate Examiner's email address is: probate.examiner@mercedcourt.org

Emails must have the case identification information and hearing date/time in the subject line. **No attachments will be opened.** The Probate Examiner can only respond to inquiries regarding the meaning of comments in the Notes. *Please do not email to request a confirmation whether documents have been received or to request the clearing of notes.* No legal or procedural advice may be given by the Examiner in response to your email.

Questions regarding fees, forms, status of orders, Zoom links or remote appearances should be directed to the Probate Unit of the Clerk's Office at (209) 725-4111 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm. and 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., Monday – Friday.

The following cases are not reflected in the Probate Notes and appearances are required unless previously excused by the Court:

- Guardianships and Conservatorships of the Person
- Minor's Compromise cases before the Probate Court for approval
- Petition for Special Immigrant Juvenile Findings

**Questions involving Guardianships (including SIJF) and Conservatorships of the Person should be directed to the Court Investigators Office at (209) 725-4190.*

***Please note no legal or procedural advice can be provided by the Court Investigator's Office. ***

Superior Court of California, County of Merced
PROBATE/CONSERVATORSHIP CALENDAR
HONORABLE: Mark Bacciarini

DATE: Wednesday, September 9, 2026
TIME: 8:15 AM
Courtroom 10

PROBATE CALENDAR

The following tentative rulings shall become the ruling of the court unless a party gives notice of intention to appear as follows:

1. You must call (209) 725-4240 to notify the court of your intent to appear.
2. You must give notice to all other parties before 4:00 p.m. of your intent to object.

Per California Rules of Court, rule 3.1308(a)(1), failure to do both items 1 and 2 will result in no oral argument. **Parties who contest the tentative ruling or wish to appear remotely at a hearing must contact the clerk of the Court at (209) 725-4111 to provide their contact information for the remote hearing.**

CASE#: 23PR-00228

CASE NAME: Estate of Silvia Esparza Vera

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from August 12, 2026 re: Review of Case Status Hearing

THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE PAPERS WERE PREVIOUSLY NOTED:

1. A Petition for Final Account or Status Report has not been filed.
Prob Code §12200-12201

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required. Counsel to advise the Court on the current case status.

(continued on next page)

CASE#: 25PR-00131

CASE NAME: Estate of Cameron Bradford Johnson

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Administrator's Final Report Upon Waiver of Account and Petition for Order Directing Payment of Statutory Compensation and Reimbursement of Costs to Attorney, Directing Distribution of Estate Then Remaining to Intestate Decedent's Heir at Law, and Settling the Estate

THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE PAPERS ARE NOTED:

1. A proposed order was lodged on May 21, 2026 that contains a typographical error on page 2, line 7 which should reflect the date of May 5, 2025 instead of May 5, 2023

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. The *Administrator's Final Report Upon Waiver of Account and Petition for Order Directing Payment of Statutory Compensation and Reimbursement of Costs to Attorney, Directing Distribution of Estate Then Remaining to Intestate Decedent's Heir at Law, and Settling the Estate* is approved. A Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate is hereby set for January 20, 2027 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

CASE#: 25PR-00285

CASE NAME: Estate of Manuel T. Rocha

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from August 15, 2025 re: Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate

THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE PAPERS ARE NOTED:

1. A Petition for Final Account or Status Report has not been filed.
Prob Code §12200-12201

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required. Counsel to advise the Court on the current case status.

CASE#: 26PR-00170

CASE NAME: Robert Dean Ashlock, Jr.

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

In Camera Hearing

THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE PAPERS ARE NOTED:

None.

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required.

(continued on next page)

CASE#: 26PR-00273

CASE NAME: Estate of Arvin Clarence Abbott

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Spousal Property Petition

THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE PAPERS ARE NOTED:

1. The Petition seeks an order determining the subject property is community property and transferring Decedent's 50 percent interest to Petitioner. However, the attached will appears to devise Decedent's residuary estate, including real property, to the Trustee of the Arvin Clarence Abbott and Linda Rose Abbott Revocable Trust dated October 2, 2000. The trust instrument and any amendments have not been provided and the record does not establish that Decedent's one-half interest passes to the Petitioner individually. (Prob. Code §§ 100, 13651, subd. (a)(3).)

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. The hearing is continued to October 16, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10. Prior to the continued hearing, the Petitioner to submit a complete copy of the referenced trust, including all amendments. The Petitioner should also provide notice to the Trustee, if not previously provided. (Prob. Code § 13655.) Any supplemental pleadings shall be filed with the Court and served no later than the close of business on October 7, 2026.

CASE#: 26PR-00296

CASE NAME: Estate of Donald Royce Aris, Jr.

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Petition for Letters of Administration with Full IAEA Authority

THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE PAPERS ARE NOTED:

1. No Proof of Publication with the corresponding signed affidavit.
Prob Code §8121, §8124
2. Proposed Order for Probate has not been lodged.
Prob Code §8006, §8400, MSC Rule 100 E.

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required.

(End of Tentative Rulings)